The A. F. of L. Weekly News Service gives news accounts and editorial interpretations of matters affecting labor concerning in the industrial, legislative, and judicial fields, and contains other information of benefit to the trade union movement.

AMERICAN FEDERATION OF LABOR

WEEKLY NEWS SERVICE

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LABOR DAY SPECIAL

This issue contains principal Labor Day messages. Other material will be carried as available.

WHOLE NO. 2051 | WILLIAM GREEN, *President* | WASHINGTON, D. C., TUESDAY, AUGUST 1, 1950 | GEORGE MEANY, *Secretary-Treasurer* | VOL. 40, NO. 31



GEORGE MEANY
Secretary-Treasurer, American Federation of Labor

Labor Day Rallies To Honor Gompers

New York.—Special observances commemorating the centennial of Samuel Gompers, AFL founder, will mark Labor Day celebrations organized by State Federations and local councils of the American Federation of Labor throughout the country this year.

In a special message to all central trades and labor councils, AFL President William Green pointed out that labor's holiday was the most appropriate occasion for calling attention to the significant contributions made by the AFL's first president to the cause of organized labor and democracy, and he urged Gompers tributes arranged for the holiday. Mr. Green also stated that labor day functions in the various communities should focus attention on the AFL's special organizing drive, aimed at enrolling 5 million new members in the federation during this Gompers Centennial year; should dramatize and develop active support for the political action program set up by Labor's League for Political Education, and should stress the necessity for popularizing use of the union label.

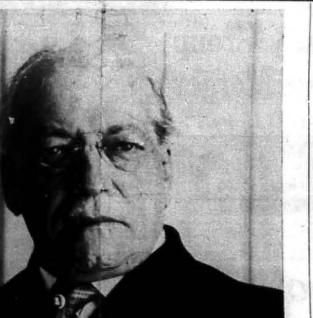
"All of these activities are of substantial and immediate importance to our federation," Mr. Green wrote, "and Labor Day provides an excellent opportunity for emphasizing and advancing them.

"As the body representing the AFL in your community, you are in a position to make a significant contribution to our worldwide goals by arranging a Labor Day event based on this program."

The AFL affiliates were informed that the Samuel Gompers Centennial Committee, at 55 West 42d St., New York, would provide them with all material required for use in Gompers observances.

Salutes to Gompers on Labor Day will second another high point in the year-round schedule of events honoring the memory of the nation's outstanding unionist, which began with the dinner held in Washington Jan. 5, attended by President Truman and other high government and labor spokesmen.

Plans call for culminating the centennial year with a wind-up dinner at New York's Hotel Commodore on Dec. 13, sponsored by the New York Central Trades and Labor Council.



SAMUEL GOMPERS
1850—1924
Founder and First President of American Federation of Labor

Gompers' Labor Day Messages Set War, Politics, Organizing Goals

THE 20th CENTURY
(From Samuel Gompers Labor Day Message 1901)

Labor Day, 1901, is the first of the new century, a century to be fraught with momentous results in every field of human activity.

In spite of the fact that we have occasionally great industrial disputes, yet the organized labor movement in its essence stands for industrial peace, and presents a rational method for the inauguration of fairer and more just conditions for all.

Labor Day marks a new epoch in the annals of human history. It differs essentially from other holidays of the year in any country, for it glorifies no armed conflicts or battles of man's prowess over man.

Though now sanctioned by the laws of state and nation, Labor Day—labor's holiday—was celebrated by organized labor long before any legal enactment.

No martial glory or warlike pomp signals Labor Day. The marching hosts of workers manifest their growing intelligence and their unalterable determination for the effacement of the unnatural and brutal causes that impel man to raise his hand against his brother.

☆ ☆ ☆
POLITICS
(From Samuel Gompers Labor Day Message 1910)

The advent of each recurring Labor Day imparts inspiration to the toilers in their constant struggle and aspirations for a better time and a better life.

On that great anniversary it is well for the thinkers and doers in this mass movement of the workers not only to take courage in the work for the future but also to review, however briefly, the work of the past and the situation at present.

As to the political policy of the American Federation of Labor, recent events affecting its larger aspects have been recorded. During our trip in Europe a year ago we arrived consistantly and earnestly, and sympathetically, to ascertain the origins of the workingmen's parties in the Old World. They were to be found in political and class conditions not existing in this country.

The American trade unionists may be most willing to bring about what unity is possible with the workingmen of Europe, but there are no signs that our membership is willing to adopt the political policy in Europe. Americans, the big majority of them, are sufficiently educated to want to know where they are to land before they embark.

On this Labor Day and for the year to come, let us all give a long pull, a strong pull, a pull altogether, boys, for unionism and federation.

☆ ☆ ☆
LABOR AT WAR
(From Samuel Gompers Labor Day Message 1917)

Labor Day, 1917, dawns upon a world convulsed in a titanic struggle for fundamental principles—future world institutions are in the balance. Our own republic is girding itself for battle.

No organization within the United States has had more correct understanding of the issues and the dangers involved than the organized labor movement and no element is more important in enabling the nation to take effective part in defense of our position.

The clouds of war hover above us, the world of pain, suffering and travail clutch at our very heartstrings, but beyond them and the sacrifices is a sunbeam of encouragement and hope; just a glimmer of victory in the end; a glimpse of the sunbeam which will burst into a full noonday of glorious triumph, of peace with justice, freedom and democracy for all the peoples of the world.

☆ ☆ ☆
WIN THE WAR
(From Samuel Gompers Labor Day Message 1918)

Labor Day, 1918, finds a peculiar need. Our republic is well into the second year of war. The allied forces for democratic freedom are winning steadily along the western front. No man's land is steadily coming under the banners of those who fight to establish and maintain principles of freedom.

The issues are such that none can remain neutral. Each is for freedom or for despotism.

The St. Paul Convention of the American Federation of Labor suggested that the celebration of the day dedicated to Labor should center upon service to the ideal for which America stands and chose as the slogan for that day—Win the War for Freedom.

It is a very serious thing to ask men to give their lives for the determination of a cause. But the ideal at stake is more than life—it is that which makes life worth while.

We are winning the war for freedom—let us hold steady until the war is won.

TRIPLE ANNIVERSARY
(From Samuel Gompers Labor Day Message 1920)

Unusual significance attaches to celebration of Labor Day this year because of the fact that the day is a triple anniversary.

Labor Day, 1920, falls on the anniversary of Lafayette Day and on the anniversary of the Battle of the Marne in which the German invaders were checked in their march on Paris.

In the broadest and best sense the spirit of all of these commemorative services is a kindred spirit and nothing could be more fitting than the observance of the day in this triple manner.

☆ ☆ ☆
ORGANIZE
(From Samuel Gompers Labor Day Message 1922)

Labor Day 1922 finds the workers of the United States able to view with satisfaction the unity and the solidarity in the ranks of the workers, the understanding and the intelligence which directs their actions, and the constructive purposeful manner in which they view the future of our industrial life as whole.

Labor's great record of achievement has been built upon the watchwords, Agitate, Educate, Organize.

All fundamentals of Labor's creed are found in these three great, strong words. Let them on this day and for the coming year continue to serve as they have served so splendidly in the past to inspire, to hearten, and to unify.

Men of labor, we are not struggling alone for ourselves but for our wives and children, for the people of our America, for the republic we love so well, for the perpetuation of our glorious institutions, for the future safety and happiness and prosperities yet unborn who will judge and evaluate the service to civilization which we in our time have given.

Agitate, Educate, Organize!

☆ ☆ ☆
LABOR IS RIGHT
(From Samuel Gompers Labor Day Message 1923)

Labor has reason to celebrate Labor Day this year as a day marking great achievement. Our movement is today in a commanding position. It has come through a great ordeal. It is triumphant. Our position today is a tribute to the solidarity of our movement, to the soundness of its policies and the determination of its membership.

The great labor-hating crusade of the socalled "open-shoppers," the wage cutters and the immigration fanatics has fallen by the wayside, ineffective as it was unsound. Neither legislation nor economic pressure has weakened our ranks.

Our movement lives because it is right. It triumphs because it is right. It serves because it is the creation of our own time, the product of our American environment and our American genius.

Celebrate this Labor Day with pride and dignity. Full justice will yet be ours!

Gompers Favored Political Action To Protect Labor's Legal Rights

New York.—Samuel Gompers saw the trade union as a form of grass roots democracy, substituting for poverty and ignorance a healthy and enlightened way of life for the whole American people, declare novelist as entitled, "The Gompers Heritage," in the May 7 issue of The New Republic.

The article, written by Gus Tyler, political director of the AFL International Ladies' Garment Workers Union, calls attention to the practical wisdom of Gompers' approach to both economics and politics.

To Gompers, building the trade unions was "the first and most enduring idea," says Tyler. "The strike was the way to win. The contract was the way to hold. High dues and mutual aid were the cement to bind the union together through every phase of the whirling business cycle.

"This was Gompers' contribution to the labor movement," Tyler continues, "a definite wage earner organization," the effectiveness of which is "far more obvious today than 80 years ago—and even today more thoroughly developed in the United States than in Europe." Gompers pursued this belief, he adds, with the fiery sincerity of one who has uncovered a basic truth.

Turning to politics, Tyler notes that "although Gompers subordinated political to economic action, he was not—as some careless critics have maintained—either anti or apolitical."

Gompers believed that labor should be partisan for a policy rather than for a party, he points out, and his methods were "reward your friends and punish your enemies," is today the "official strategy of both the AFL and the CIO—more thoroughly accepted than at any other time in American labor history."

The article surveys the AFL's early political activities, explaining that the federation's sometimes cautious approach was based upon Gompers' willingness "to trust the fundamental friendship in the unions would be sucked off into political work," and that "the working people would transfer their hopes and basic allegiance."

However, it continues, "(he) believed that organized labor was justified in going into politics vigorously if it did so to protect its legal rights to organize, to strike and to operate effectively on the industrial front."

Organized labor's present-day political activity is placed in clear perspective when Tyler traces its beginnings to the political activities of the AFL in the early 1900s.

Both today and at the turn of the century, parallel situations confronted American unions and surprisingly similar actions were taken. In 1902, the National Association of Manufacturers launched an attack on labor by stifling pro-labor congressmen and producing an effect much like that of the current Taft-Hartley atmosphere. The Federation countered with nonpartisan congressional campaigns, and by 1910 there were 15 card-holding unionists in Congress.

GOMPERS STAMPS AMAZE ASIATICS

Dacca, East Pakistan.—AFL members of the Asian mission of the International Confederation of Free Trade Unions amazed their trade union brothers here by presenting them with a few copies of the Samuel Gompers memorial 3-cent stamp.

The stamps were distributed by Gordon W. Chapman, secretary - treasurer AFL State, County and Municipal Workers, and Richard L-G. Deverall, AFL representative in Asia.

'With Those Hands' Prints Available

New York.—Arrangements have been made with Classic Pictures, Inc., New York, for the handling of all distribution on "With Those Hands," film history of the AFL International Ladies Garment Workers. This includes the 35 mm. and 16 mm. versions of the picture both for commercial engagements in theaters and for showings by organizations, institutions.

All inquiries are to be addressed to Classic Pictures, Inc., 1560 Broadway, New York 19, N. Y.

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AMERICAN FEDERATION OF LABOR
WEEKLY NEWS SERVICE
SUPPLEMENT

Samuel Gompers said:
He would indeed be shortsighted who would fail to advocate independent voting and political action by union workmen.

WILLIAM GREEN, *President* — WASHINGTON, D. C., FRIDAY, AUGUST 4, 1950 — GEORGE MEANY, *Secretary-Treasurer*

War Demands Prompt T-H Repeal And Excess Tax on Profiteers

Green Tells New York AFL That End of Taft-Hartley Would Revitalize Workers For Big Job Ahead

New York.—AFL President William Green told the New York Federation of Labor's annual convention that "prompt repeal of the Taft-Hartley Act should stand as the number one item on our national defense program."

He said in part:

"That infamous law is a powerful propaganda tool in the hands of the Communists. They point to it, in their propaganda messages to workers in other lands, as proof of American insincerity in professing to accord equality of treatment to all citizens.

"Its repeal would revitalize the workers of this country, inspire them as no other action could, to pitch in and do the tremendous job that lies ahead of them. I can say with full confidence that half the production battle would be won in advance with action by Congress now to repeal the Taft-Hartley Act and replace it with a fair and just law under which labor and management could carry on their heavy defense duties without fear of oppression or one-sided treatment by the government.

"But I am not so optimistic as to believe that the reactionary groups in big business and in Congress who inflicted the Taft-Hartley Act upon us will have the vision or the statesmanship to realize the error of their ways and to relinquish their punitive drive against labor without a struggle.

"It is therefore incumbent upon our trade union movement to carry on the fight for repeal of the Taft-Hartley Act with undiminished vigor until our cause is won. We know that in struggling to keep American labor strong and free, we are upholding the cause not only of American workers, but of American democracy itself. That knowledge has sustained us through many disappointments and it will continue to inspire us until our goal is won.

"In the past few days, the combined impetus of the national defense emergency and the damaging effects of the Taft-Hartley Act have brought about the most encouraging progress toward labor unity in America since the split occured in 1935.

"As a result of the negotiations that have already taken place, I can assure you that there is a firm determination on the part of the representatives of both the American Federation of Labor and the CIO to find a basis of accommodation and to reach an accord which will bring about a single, united, all-powerful labor movement in America.

"It may take considerable time to achieve that objective but already agreement has been reached upon these major points:

"1. The American Federation of Labor and CIO will work together in complete harmony to further the war effort in Korea and to speed the over-all defense program.

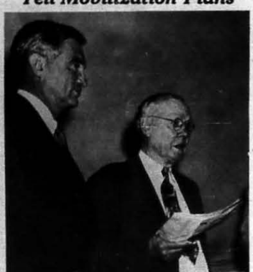
"2. The American Federation of Labor and the CIO will collaborate closely in international affairs with the objective of preventing further Communist infiltration of free labor movements in any part of the world.

"3. The two organizations will follow parallel lines in the concentrated fight which has been launched for the purpose of bringing about prompt repeal of the Taft-Hartley Act

"The workers of America stand solidly in support of our Commander-in-Chief and the armed forces.' We are ready to produce in record time whatever is needed in the way of armament to speed the victory. And we are ready to make whatever sacrifices are necessary to guarantee that our nation and our free way of life will be safeguarded against any future threat from the forces of aggression.

"American labor courageously faces the fact that world peace is in jeopardy. We are fully aware that the Korean conflict is but a minor eruption as compared with what a third world war would entail. As much as we hate war, we hate oppression more. We are resolved to give whatever it takes to save the world from being overrun by Communist aggression, Communist slavery and Communist ruin."

Tell Mobilization Plans



Washington.—Chairman Stuart M. Symington of the National Security Resources Board (left) and AFL President William Green tell reporters that organized labor has been accorded full equal voice with industry, agriculture and government in mobilizing the nation to win the Korean war and defense plans against communist aggression.

Navy Seeks 70,000 Seabee Reserves

Washington.—The Navy announced a new reserve recruitment drive for 70,000 skilled construction men as a standby Seabee (Construction Battalion) force in event of full-scale emergency.

The campaign, being conducted under the direction of the Navy Bureau of Yards and Docks, is directed principally at older men in the building trades who have wide construction experience.

The opportunity to join the Navy Seabees and receive a petty officer rating equal to their civilian experience is open to men not subject to induction under the Selective Service Extension Act of 1950. Those eligible include any skilled construction man from 26 to 44, inclusive, with a 50½-year maximum for ex-Seabees. In the case of all veterans, the maximum age limit is extended by the number of years of active duty.

The assignment of members of the Seabee Standby (V-6) Reserve, if called to active duty, would be to build and defend shore facilities overseas.

The 7 Seabee ratings that are open embrace some 60 different civilian construction skills. The ratings are: builder, mechanic, steelworker, utilities man, construction electrician, driver, and surveyor. Volunteers will be placed on inactive duty, with no drills or required meetings. They may be called to active duty when required.

Volunteers should contact the commanding officer of the Organized Naval Reserve Construction Battalion Company or Volunteer Construction Battalion Reserve Unit in their community. Seabee companies or units are located in more than 300 principal cities throughout the country. Application also can be made at any Naval Recruiting Station.

Meany Outlines Labor No-Strike, Wage-Price Stand

By ARNOLD BEICHMAN
New York Correspondent for AFL News Service

New York. — Secretary - Treasurer George Meany brought this 87th annual convention of the State Federation of Labor to its feet cheering his challenge to American industry and business that they should take a "no profiteering" pledge for the duration of the Korean crisis as they would have labor take a "no strike" pledge "when the time comes."

"Of course, we will give a no strike pledge when the time comes," Mr. Meany said, "But what about a no profiteering, no excess profits pledge from the Chamber of Commerce and the National Association of Manufacturers? How about a pledge from the Tafts, the Martins, the Hallecks, the Byrds, the Wherrys to lay aside for the duration their all-out warfare against the little people of the nation?"

Most significant aspect of Meany's address was his statement of policy on mobilization and economic controls which were:

1. The AFL will not press for a price rollback because "it doesn't work; it's futile."

2. If there is to be at any time a wage-price freeze, then wages should go up automatically by the same percentage of increase over the wages of June 25, 1950, when the Korean war began.

3. "The only way by which the cost of all-out defense of our country can be equitably shared by all is to enact an excess profits tax in addition to the other taxes."

"I think everyone should keep in mind," he said, "that this is a struggle to maintain a free way of life not only for those who work for wages but also for the businessmen, the industrialists, the bankers, the coupon clippers and for everybody else."

He pointed out that if price rises became general, there would inevitably be a demand for wage increases—"and if that happens, the greedy, the selfish industrialists who have taken advantage of a national emergency to add to their already swollen profits will cry out, through their national organizations, for the clamping of controls on labor."

The Dun & Bradstreet wholesale food price index has risen 9 percent since the start of the Korean war and is now 13.3 percent over what it was a year ago at this time.

"Why?" asked Meany. "Because of wage increases? Because of increased production costs? Definitely, no! The reasons for the price rises can all be compressed into one word — Greed. How far can this sort of thing be allowed to continue? We all know that as soon as prices get beyond the reach of the worker's pay check there will have to be wage increases.

"Of course, then the cry will be that you cannot increase wages without further increases in prices and that, therefore, wage increases are inflationary. That is a favorite line of reasoning that we hear from Sen. Taft and the other anti-labor spokesmen for the Taft-Byrd alliance."

He recalled to the convention delegates of the "strike" by the nation's industrialists in 1940 and 1941, who refused to convert their plants to production for national defense "until their terms were met by the government."

"After the fall of France in 1940," he recalled, "our requirements of planes, guns, munitions and equipment were most urgent. It then looked as if Britain would go down at any moment.

"The situation was as critical then as it is now. Labor was solidly behind the government. But not our greedy industrialists. Oh, no, they wouldn't budge; they would not lift a finger—not until the government met their terms.

"They really put on a sit-down strike against the safety and security of America.

"Well, we cannot afford to have a repetition of this sort of thing this time. Nor can we afford to let the inflationary spiral get a head start on us by doing nothing about the exorbitant price increases we see every day.

"If we have to pay for a tremendous program of preparedness and possibly a long all-out war, we cannot afford to make tax concessions, to those with the greatest ability to pay."

Working Toward Unity



Washington.—Four members of the AFL-CIO Permanent Unity Committee, due to meet in August in Chicago, are l. to r., AFL President William Green, AFL Vice President Daniel J. Tobin, CIO Vice Presidents Allan S. Haywood and Walter Reuther.

Keenan Plots Task



Washington.—Director Joseph Keenan of Labor's League for Political Education points to his home state of Illinois as one of the important contests where liberal voters must win if repeal of the Taft-Hartley law is to be achieved. The map shows 25 states where liberal victories would mean a progressive Fair Deal Congress.

People Face Patriotic Duty to Beat Bad Security Risks Taft, Milliken

New York.—To defeat Taft-Hartley supporters this year will be a patriotic duty.

That's what Joseph Keenan, director AFL Labor's League for Political Education, told the New York Federation of Labor.

"Out of 209 representatives who voted against labor in the last session, 161 of them also voted against aid to Korea last January," he said. "The ultra-reactionaries like Taft, Wherry and their anti-labor cohorts have voted straight down the line with Marcantonio and against American preparedness.

"Men like Milliken, Taft and George, all of them up for reelection this year, should be retired as bad security risks and a menace to our country. They have been tried and proven incompetent to guide our national affairs."

Mr. Keenan said the big stumbling block to sound financing of the Korean war are Senators Taft, Milliken, George and Byrd — "four charter members of the Dixie-GOP coalition."

The LLPE director called for an end to AFL apathy to the 1950 elections. He said:

"It is up to the officers and leaders of our local unions to make the 8,000,000 members of the AFL conscious of how much their votes are needed this year. The Dixiecrat-GOP coalition still controls Congress. That unholy alliance has proven itself incompetent to write the laws and set the policies of this country."

Mr. Keenan noted that the 81st Congress is the first in 12 years—since 1938—to pass any liberal legislation.

"Our successful efforts in 1948," he said, "were rewarded with the passage of a 75-cent minimum wage law, a public housing act, and an increase in social security. Taft-Hartley remains on the books only by a small majority. So far, not one single piece of really bad legislation has been enacted."

He said New York AFL members have 20 "wrong-way congressmen." He said there are 25 from both parties who need help badly and "you have to reelect" Sen. Herbert H. Lehman.

"If we get a liberal majority we can scrap the Taft-Hartley Act next spring and put in a law that will bring trust and harmony into labor relations," Mr. Keenan said. "If we don't we'll be stuck with the Taft-Hartley law or worse for the duration. They are already hatching a labor control bill on Capitol Hill."

ICFTU Counters Reds Phony Plea

Brussels, Belgium. — The International Confederation of Free Trade Unions has called on affiliates representing 50,000,000 of the world's workers to counter the communists' "Stockholm peace campaign, the only aim of which is to create confusion about the true imperialistic character of the Soviet Union's policy."

"We cannot let the communists go on parading as the champions of peace and collecting signatures for the so-called Stockholm campaign from hundreds of thousands of well-meaning but uninformed people, while at the same time conducting a full-fledged, flagrant, undeniable war of aggression in Korea," the ICFTU has advised affiliated trade union centers.

The ICFTU — the anti-communist world trade organization including both AFL and CIO—asked that these facts about the Korean war be publicized:

"Whatever the immediate outcome of the fighting the following facts are clear and indisputable:

"1. The fighting was started by forces of North Korea—a Soviet satellite state.

"2. The Security Council 'has charged North Korea as the aggressor and called on member states to render all possible aid — including military aid—to South Korea.

"3. Moscow's claim that the Security Council decision taken in its absence has no legal validity has been rejected by every competent international legal expert.

"4. The accusation that South Korea started the fighting is a falsehood.

"5. The World Federation of Trade Unions campaign to secure the support of trade unionists, and particularly transport workers, for the war against South Korea is further evidence of Moscow's desire to use the trade union movement for the political aims of Soviet imperialism.

"As soon as the facts were clear the ICFTU protested against this latest communist aggression.

"We do not hold any special brief for the social or economic policy of the South Korean government. Our delegation at present visiting Asia intended to include Korea in its itinerary, and would undoubtedly have produced practical proposals for the economic and social development of the country in the interest of the people, as it is doing elsewhere.

"Korea had a heavy legacy of Japanese misrule to overcome. Nevertheless, they were making a start with important reforms. Chief of these—for remember South Korea is 90% agricultural—was the distribution of all land holdings over 7.35 acres to tenants. This law went into force on June 1 last—perhaps that was one reason why the attack was timed when it was.

"Irrespective of the character of South Korean government, there is no justification for armed aggression in defiance of the United Nations."

Declare your independence by buying Independence Bonds.

French and Italians Visit



Washington.—Top photo, spokesmen for French trade unions and government labor officials are shown at luncheon given jointly by AFL and CIO. L. to r., Pierre M. Michon, French Confederation of Christian Workers; Dante Rosenthal, Minister of Labor; Robert Pfeifer, Food Workers; Adolphe Sidro, Federation of Clerks and Technicians.

Bottom photo, Italian trade unionists who were guests at the same luncheon, Alberto Cajelli, Covezzoli Paolo, Francesco Venuti, Dominici Luigi and Baldassare Guzzardo.

Hines Labels Peace Petition a Phony

Washington.—AFL Special Representative Lewis G. Hines joined with spokesmen for 12 other American organizations in labeling the socalled "Stockholm Peace Petition" a "phony peace petition to disarm the United States."

The organizations are represented in the All-American Conference to Combat Communism. Mr. Hines and the 12 other spokesmen said:

"The circulation, under the direction of the Communist party, of the phony peace petition to disarm the United States is in keeping with its historic procedure of infiltrating and later paralyzing a nation which it wishes to invade.

"This petition was initiated at the recent socalled peace conference at Stockholm. All men kindly disposed toward their fellows favor peace.

"We favor peace, but we are forced to conclude that the nations which have associated themselves with this alleged peace move are aggressors, not peacemakers."

Pointing out that 1,000,000 Americans had already signed the petition, the group expressed the hope that "no other Americans or organizations will be caught in this trap."

French Label Red Peace Plea Swindle

Paris, France.—The French Force Ouvriere labeled the Stockholm peace petition of the communists "a monstrous moral swindle."

The free French trade unions headed by Leon Jouhaux issued a poster in response to the request of the International Confederation of Free Trade Unions for action to counter the Reds' phony peace plea for which they are seeking petitions around the world.

The Force Ouvriere said in part:

"For weeks you have been asked to sign the Stockholm Appeal. It is presented to you as the peaceful will of the Communist party and Confederation of Labor.

"This is a monstrous moral swindle.

"Peace is the property of every worker. It is one and indivisible.

"There is no good or dirty war, but just war, with its sacrifices, miseries, ruins and dead.

"The Stockholm Appeal is a treachery that we must denounce.

"It masks the ways of Soviet expansion.

"We call upon the workers, we call upon public opinion to act against the campaign launched by a well organized fifth column."

AFL Farm Labor Union Adds 7,366 Members

Washington. — The AFL National Farm Labor Union gained 7,366 new members since the Samuel Gompers Centennial Organizing Campaign began last January.

The union, in the first international union report published on gains thus far made in the year-long drive to add 1,000,000 new AFL members, chartered 26 new local unions.

Much of this progress was made in organizing workers employed on large scale farms in California, Union President H. L. Mitchell reported.

Significant gains have been made for these California workers in maintaining and increasing wage rates, and the union played an important role in the recent primary election by getting 35,000 farm workers registered to cast ballots.

The National Farm Labor Union has also begun the organization of small dairy farmers, beginning with two local unions in Louisiana turned over by the Brotherhood of Teamsters in 1948.

Later, a group of dairy farmers formerly in the United Mine Workers District 50 joined the National Farm Labor Union and since Jan. 1, 1950, nearly 4,000 dairy farmers have been organized. Membership dues are checked off from the producers' monthly milk check by the distributor handling the members' product.

Glass Bottle Blowers Get Pay Rise, $100 Pensions Plus Social Security

Philadelphia.—The AFL Glass Bottle Blowers Association has just concluded a nation-wide collective bargaining agreement which gives members a package increase of 10 cents an hour.

President Lee W. Minton announced that the agreement covers machine operators who make glass containers in plants from coast to coast.

Substantial gains were made in the new contract including a general wage increase of 4 cents an hour plus an additional 3 cents per hour which will be contributed by employers to a contributory pension fund amounting to $100 per month at age 65.

Any future increases in social security benefits will increase the benefits paid. After 15 years of service, workers may retire on a pension due to disability. The employees' contribution to the fund is to be worked out on an actuarial basis.

Included in the agreement is a 1½-cents-per-hour increase in insurance and welfare benefits plus three additional paid holidays per year; an improved vacation plan, and better seniority provisions.

The union already had in effect a dues checkoff but the employers agreed to make an additional checkoff for employes who wish to make purchases of savings bonds.

Negotiations ended successfully on July 19 after one week of continuous negotiations. The contract runs for two years with reopenings for wage negotiations anytime during 1950 or early 1951.

Other Glass Bottle Blowers Association members in the glass industry will seek similar benefits in August negotiations. This group will include shippers, packers, batch room employes, yard employes and tankmen.

The increased gains bring the wages of the Glass Bottle Blowers Association up to the highest point in their history. The association is one of the oldest unions in the American Federation of Labor, dating back to 1846. Since 1885 when national collective bargaining was first instituted, there has not been a geenral strike in the industry.

Chicago AFL Blasts Phony Peace Plea

By DAN SMYTH
Chicago Correspondent AFL News Service

Chicago.—Phony "peace" petitions, circulated in the name of organized labor by a group of left-wingers, were repudiated by the Chicago Federation of Labor, representing 450,000 AFL trade unionists in the nation's second largest city.

The executive board of the federation adopted a resolution condemning the petitions as "unpatriotic and a disservice to the country."

William A. Lee, federation president, said the petitions are a "wicked attempt to divide the country at a time when unity is our only protection."

"Our organization, like any decent American organization, stands solidly behind the President of the United States in this struggle between conflicting ideologies," Mr. Lee said.

"Organized labor will never bow to totalitarianism, because we will be the first losers under that type of government."

Lewis G. Hines, special AFL representative in Washington, recently passed along a warning from Dean Acheson, U. S. Secretary of State, that Communists in the United States would try to fool the American people with a phony "peace" offensive.

Secretary Acheson reported the so-called "World Peace Appeal" or "Stockholm Resolution" was adopted last March at the Stockholm session of the "Partisans of Peace," an international organization backed by the communists.

The petitions have made little headway in Chicago, where they have been circulated for months by a paper organization known as the Labor Conference for Peace. The so-called "conference" is supported by no labor leader of any real standing in the community, although it uses the names of leftists who hold membership in CIO, AFL and independent unions—mostly in the independent unions kicked out of the CIO for left-wing tendencies.

British Say Russia No Peace Champion

London, England.—The British Labor party charged that the communist "peace" petition "is nothing less than a fraudulent attempt to shift the responsibility from the door of Soviet Russia—where it really belongs."

Speaking for the British party's executive committee, Morgan Phillips said:

"It is astonishing that a power with such a record of aggressive imperialism as Russia should now pose as the champion of peace. As the Peace Pledge Union and the National Peace Council, which represent genuine pacifist opinion in this country, have found, there is no pacifism in the communist campaign."